

The Spirit

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March 2007

SJC GETS NEW FITNESS CENTER

Game Room Converted into Cardio/Weight Facility

By Angela Quinn

What can you buy with \$25,000? How about a new Fitness Center in Tuohy Hall?

When student began the Spring semester on January 22, walking into the 'Rec' room during common hour yielded quite a surprise: a barren room with a few pieces of gym equipment and a rack of free weights now replaced the memory of a room lined with lockers, couches and game tables.

Of 92 students and faculty that were surveyed on campus, more than 90% indicated that they were in favor of a Fitness Center at SJC.

"I'm actually excited about our new Fitness Center," said freshman chemistry major Tanya Serule. "Now I'm going to have incentive to stay in shape and not be so tired all the time."

The Fitness Center will contain various types of equipment including Universal weight systems, treadmills, stationary bikes and free weights.

"The Fitness Center is something we've always needed, but the space in Brooklyn is always tight," said Athletic Director Frank Carbone. "We wanted to design something that would be of use to the entire college and not just for the teams. We're really hoping that it will generate a

great deal of interest and point us in the right direction," he added.

The \$25,000 for the equipment came in the form of a grant from the Independence Savings Bank which sponsors development in schools. The money for the actual construction was provided through the college's budget.

"We hope to make the Fitness Center as modern and state-of-the-art as we can, so our plan is to update a few machines each year," said Carbone. "We're hoping to put in a better sound system, air conditioning and televisions. We are expecting it to be at its best by the summer," added Carbone.

It turns out that having an exercise facility on campus provides another opportunity for SJC students: employment.

"We'll be looking to fill about ten to fifteen positions, probably used for work-study on campus," said Carbone. These positions are likely to include gym maintenance, training staff and front desk controllers.

"I was actually advised by a faculty member to apply at the Fitness Center for work-study, so it's good to have that opportunity," said freshman Adrian Midgley.

Some students have expressed con-

cern regarding the furniture and lockers that once occupied the Rec. room.

"Ideally, the pool table will be relocated to the student lounge where a big-screen TV will be installed," said Carbone. "As for the lockers, we've been creative in moving them. Some have been moved right outside the Fitness Center and some are now in St. Angela Hall. We're trying not to reduce services to students," he added.

Of the students surveyed, under 10% were opposed to the Fitness Center and 1% were not even aware that the changes were made (see accompanying chart).

"The fitness program is really growing and I'm thankful to all the departments who have worked closely together to make this happen," said Carbone. "The Brooklyn campus—we're not just small. Small doesn't mean that we shouldn't have the proper facilities. We may be small, but we have big dreams," he added.

The Fitness Center is expected to operate Monday through Friday from 9 AM to 5 PM. As long as staff is available, the center will extend its hours at least one night a week and also include Saturday hours to accommodate the Professional and Graduate students.



Tanya Serule tries out a new treadmill in the Fitness Center

SJC WELCOMES DESI

By Shifat Noor

The start of a new term means the beginning of something new. Every semester, St. Joseph's College invites the chartering of new clubs by students based upon their majors, cultures and interests.

New for the spring semester is the Desi Student Association. Desi is the term referring to the people of India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana and other countries that share an ancestral linkage to South Asia.

As diversity increases at SJC, it is important for students and faculty to understand the different backgrounds and values that students bring with them. The main purpose of the Desi Student Association is to bring awareness of the Desi culture.

Evidence of the Desi culture is far more prominent than people might imagine: the catchy drumbeat of the tabla in Hip Hop, to tunics and chandelier earrings in fashion, and even the popular henna booth during the annual Halloween Bash—all are Desi in origin.

"It is very important that there is a club focusing on the Desi culture since our fashion, food and music is becoming so widespread in American society," said club member Mechal Tufail.

Although the club focuses on the Desi culture, it is open to students of all backgrounds. With students contributing unique traditions and ideas to the club, a more modernized Desi culture will make St. Joseph's College different from other colleges

with a similar club.

Dr. Mohammad A. Rana is the moderator of the Desi Student Association. "This club will not only appeal to the Desi student of St. Joseph's College, but also to other students of different backgrounds as well. It will serve as a platform where student of all ethnicities can intermingle and learn about this interesting and unknown culture," said Dr. Rana.

Now that the Desi Student Association has opened its doors to the students of SJC, it is time to think of ideas that will present the culture to the college and community.

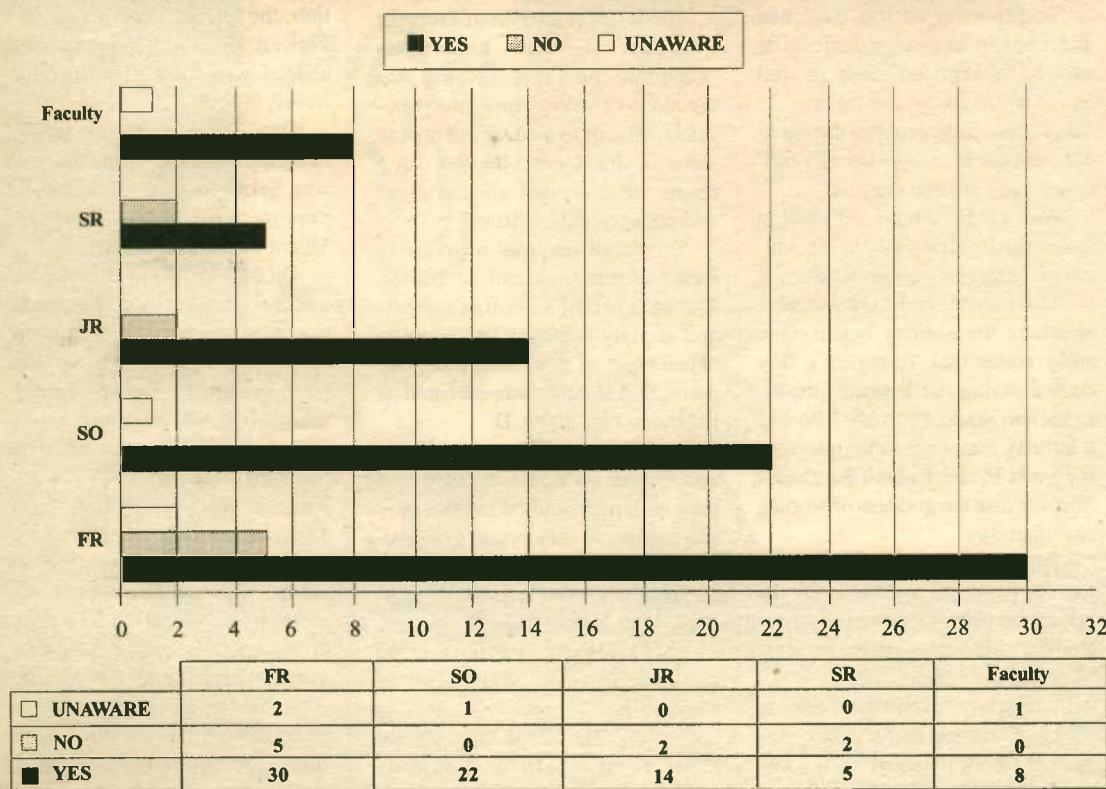
A list of events, trips and other activities has already been created by club members and outside groups are being contacted to combine their ideas with the DSA.

"Through events such as Bollywood/Bhangra dance workshop, which I am planning to do for next fall, we will give the whole college community the experience of observing and taking part in the dance workshop," said Lawrence Morgan, founder of the Desi Student Association.

Distinctive events and interesting shows sponsored by the DSA will attract incoming students and current students to participate in the club's activities.

The Desi Student Association is planning a dance performance which will be held on February 27, 2007. The event will include Indian food, rhythmic music and several professional dance groups.

For or Against the Fitness Center?



The chart indicates heavy approval for the new Fitness Center

COMING UP!

St. Patrick's Day Celebration
Sponsored by the Gaelic Society
and Alumni Association: 3/15

EDITORIAL

WHY CAN'T OUR KIDS WRITE?

Ask St. Joseph's College student teachers about their secondary school charges, and they will probably say, "They can't write." Ask a random sampling of English Professors about their students and you will probably hear a similar lament.

The question is, "Why can't American school children write?" or perhaps more accurately, "Why can't American school children write any more?"

Taking into account that numerous students in the New York City school system are foreign-born, and that English is an exceptionally difficult language to master, this still leaves hundreds of thousands of students whose native language *is* English—and they can't write either. Again we ask, "Why?"

Perhaps those people responsible for educational policies and methodologies would be advised to observe the old maxim, "If it ain't broke—don't fix it." This applies only too well to the writing curriculum in elementary and secondary schools today.

It seems that the Baby Boomer generation (as well as earlier ones) had it all wrong. Learning grammar in what were once called 'grammar schools' evidently was time ill-spent. Parsing sentences, knowing parts of speech, being able to form a well-made paragraph—all these were exercises in futility that stifled a child's creative instincts.

The new mantra became, "Just put pen to paper and write, write, write—you can fix it later." Uh huh. Nothing got fixed, nothing got taught—and clearly, little got learned. The era of 'free writing' may have done more damage to American students than the 'new math' of the mid-60s—and that damage is only too apparent in the rotten performance of American students on standardized math exams on every level.

Take a look at a list of Nobel Prize Laureates. One must wonder how many of them learned by traditional methods. Yes, they learned facts, they knew their multiplication tables, they even knew some dates here and there. What harm did it do them?

But we've entered an era of libertarian education where students can make their own curricula based upon personal likes and dislikes, where they need to be consulted before being taught. In fact, educational theorists like Paulo Freire regard teachers as 'oppressors' if they require students to learn facts rather than concepts that underlie them.

Oppressors? How so? No one minimizes the importance of concepts and critical thinking. But concepts without a factual basis—particularly in writing—leads to vapid and vacuous pronouncements that have little contextual significance.

On the undergraduate level, writing works of research is another major problem. Students today seem to want everything at their fingertips. They want to use the internet as their research tool without leaving the comfort of their homes, not realizing that *Spark Notes* or *Pink Monkey Notes* or the *Encyclopedia Britannica* do not constitute acceptable research materials, even on the high school level.

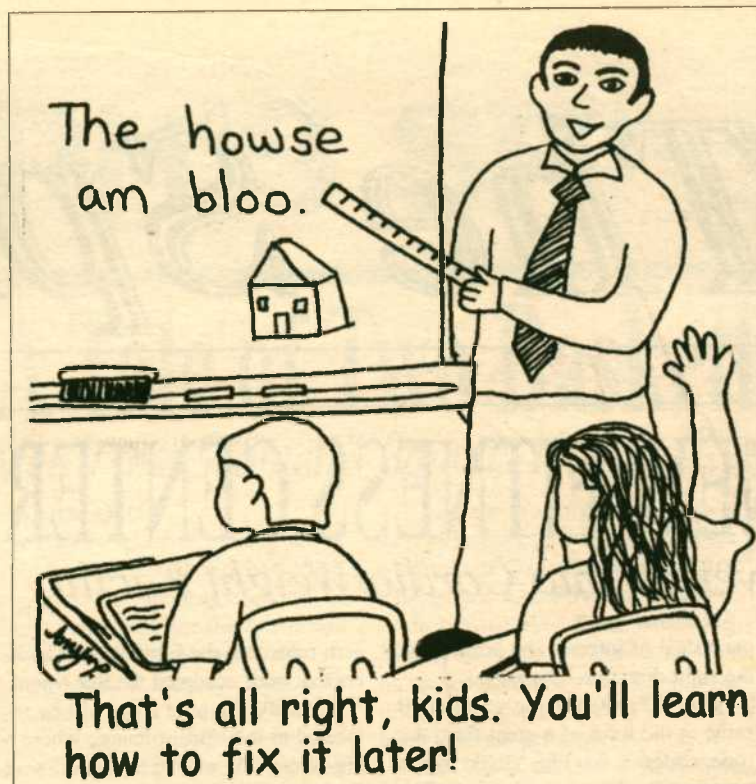
Perhaps St. Joseph's College should consider adding as a requirement to the core curriculum, a course entitled, "Methods and Materials of Undergraduate Research" so that every student knows how to access the works of brilliant minds of ages past. Such a course would teach principles of organization, documentation and citation—tools that every undergraduate should possess.

In some New York City classrooms, the teaching of spelling is forbidden. In other schools, teachers must refer to themselves as 'facilitators' rather than teachers. They no longer are the 'resource' for the class, because that would simply mean that they are transferring knowledge from their brains to the brains of their students—and we would not want that to happen, would we?

Currently, New York State ranks #39 in the nation in graduation rate from high schools. Check back in ten years, and that number could slip dramatically.

Reading. 'Riting. 'Rithmetic. Once, those three R's were fundamental to learning and getting somewhere in life. Now? We're not so sure. But if they aren't important any longer—then what is?

**Letters?
Drop them off
at Room 607 St. Angela Hall**



From the Editors

By Christina Ament and Tara Vafiadou

We would like to comment on the editorial and cartoon from the last edition of *The Spirit*. It has come to our attention that several members of the faculty were offended by the content. Some felt that the issues of immigration and political parties were both controversial and inflammatory.

We are aware that the goal of a college newspaper is to educate, to

share opinions and to stimulate thought. We acknowledge that the last editorial and cartoon may have had a somewhat negative tone.

The opinions expressed in the editorial represent the collective views of the staff. No staff can be in complete agreement with all political and social issues; some members of the staff had dissenting opinions.

This college's values respect diver-

sity and a welcoming atmosphere. We attempt to reflect these values in our newspaper. The staff of *The Spirit* regrets any discomfort the last editorial and cartoon may have caused.

Since good journalists respect the opinions of others, we are publishing some of the letters and opinions that were sent to us in reaction to the last editorial and cartoon. We hope such controversies will not arise in the future.



Tara Talk

By Tara Vafiadou

VALENTINE'S DAY: BIG HYPE OR BIG LOVE?

Some people feel that February 14th is just a silly holiday for lovers—and for the Hallmark Company and every florist in America.

Traditionally on this day, men and women exchange little gifts such as flowers and candy as well as romantic cards and poems. So many of us just accept this day without even questioning where it originated. Isn't anyone curious?

Was it a day simply set aside to honor the Roman Catholic St. Valentine or does its origin lie deeper?

There are several suggestions as to where the holiday began. One story states that Valentine's Day started during the Roman Empire. In ancient Rome, February 14th was a holiday honoring Juno, queen of the gods in the Roman pantheon. She was also the goddess of women and marriage.

The next day, February 15th, began the Feast of Lupercalia. On the eve of this feast, the names of young Roman girls were written on slips of paper and placed in jars.

Young boys would draw a name from the jars and that would be his partner for the duration of the festival. Sometimes, this pairing of

children would last an entire year and often there were times when the children would fall in love and later marry.

While under the rule of Emperor Claudius II, also known as "Claudius the Cruel," Rome was involved in many wars and it became difficult to find young men to serve in the Roman legions. As a result, he cancelled all marriages and engagements in Rome.

St. Valentine was a priest in Rome at this time and he and St. Marius assisted Christian martyrs and secretly helped marry couples. When news of this reached the emperor, St. Valentine was executed on February 14th, 270 A.D.

The pastors of the early Christian church in Rome decided that they no longer wanted to honor pagan deities, so they began to substitute the names of saints for those of maidens who were previously honored. They appear to have chosen

St. Valentine's Day for the eve of the celebration of the feast of Lupercalia.

In 486 A.D., Pope Gelasius set aside February 14th in honor of St. Valentine.

Another story is very similar, but it adds a twist to the ending: while St. Valentine was spending his time in jail before his execution, the legend says that he was visited by many people who shared with him that they believed in love.

One of his visitors was the daughter of a prison guard. She was believed to be the 'special person' who helped keep St. Valentine's spirits up.

On the day that he died, he left a note for this girl with his friend, thanking her for her friendship, supposedly signing it, "Love from your Valentine," thereby becoming the first Valentine's Day card.

Of course today, millions of people participate in this holiday. It doesn't really matter if you have a special someone or not.

From the story above, it seems clear that *anyone* can be someone's 'valentine.' Friends, lovers, spouses, neighbors—everyone is eligible to be a valentine.

So next year when it comes around, you will know why you are spending all that money on chocolate, candy and romantic dinners.

THE SPIRIT

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St. Joe's Newspaper Wins Top Honors

The Spirit Wins First Place 2nd Year Running

By Atiba Theophile

Make it two in a row for *The Spirit*, the St. Joseph's College newspaper. The American Scholastic Press Association has announced that *The Spirit* has won the coveted First Place Award in its annual critique and journalism competition.

Since the newspaper's return to campus in October of 2004, it has entered the contest twice and won both times.

The judges of the competition are professional journalists and journalism teachers who rate the newspapers that have been submitted for adjudication on the level of writing sophistication, design, photography, relevance and the extent of the coverage.

The judge who rated *The Spirit* said, "Your newspaper presents a window into your school's entire year of academics and activity and is to be

praised for its in-depth and thoughtful coverage of these many events."

The Spirit was judged against numerous other colleges of similar population. These entries come from all over the United States.

"I believe we should enter these competitions because we need to know how we stack up against other colleges," said Dr. Howard Weiner, Director of Student Publications. "When the score sheet comes back to us, it is a detailed analysis of every aspect of our paper, and it is important to know what we are doing wrong as well as what we are doing right so we can improve," added Dr. Weiner.

The editors-in-chief of *The Spirit* are junior Christine Ament and sophomore Tara Vafiadou. They manage a staff of eighteen editors, reporters, columnists and photographers.

"Our paper is a success because we are a team and we all try to help each other," said Ms. Vafiadou.

Dr. Weiner points out that the demanding schedules that the staff has means that they are not able to spend as much time in the Publications Office as he would like. "The more you are around journalism, the more you will understand it and the better you will become at reporting and editing," said Dr. Weiner.

Dr. Weiner was brought on board at St. Joseph's primarily because of his extensive publications experience. According to Director of Student Life

Sherrie VanArnam, "Dr. Weiner was hired as Publications Director to help with the publication of the yearbook. But he took on the newspaper as well and raised it to its current standard," she said. "So far, we have done exceptionally well for a college of our size," she added.

Academic Dean S. Margaret Buckley echoes Ms. VanArnam's sentiments about *The Spirit*. She said that the newspaper represents a lot of hard work and she expressed her pleasure that students have been willing to dedicate their time to the paper.

"I hope that the paper will continue to thrive and that even more students will get involved," commented S. Margaret.

The newspaper staff expressed a desire to see the publication further evolve and grow. Dr. Weiner would like to see a political and a contemporary religion column. He would also like to see someone from Student Government write a column for each edition keeping the student body apprised of upcoming events at the college.

Staff member Nick Souleotis said that the lack of experience in journalism is no drawback to joining the staff. "It's like a free journalism class in miniature. The adviser and editors help you every step of the way," said Souleotis.

The Spirit hopes it is on its way to a third consecutive national award. It might be well worth it to hop on board and join up.



The Spirit Staff gathers in front of its awards

LETTERS TO EDITOR

I want to express my concern about the editorials published in the December 2006 issue of *The Spirit*. The views expressed, be they liberal or conservative, are not the issue. But I am deeply concerned about racially biased content (the anti-Semitism implicit in the cartoon) and the disrespectful and derisive language used to characterize groups or individuals who hold views that are different from those of the writers. Also, neither piece on the editorial page offered reasoned arguments in support of the position taken. Students, and all of us in the SJC community, should be free to express diverse views, but this must be done respectfully with the support of thoughtful reasoning and background information/research about the issues involved. This seems to me to be fundamental to good journalism. It reflects badly on the college when the newspaper is used as a vehicle for inflammatory speech and conflicts with the college's mission "to prepare each student for a life characterized by integrity, intellectual and spiritual values, social responsibility, and service."

Thank you,
Jill Rehmann, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Chemistry

I fully support our constitutional right to freedom of speech. However, your editorial and accompanying cartoon in the last issue of *The Spirit* did not make a strong case that free speech is absent at Columbia. Instead, it quickly deteriorated into a mean-spirited and defamatory attack on immigrants and Jews. To let this incident pass is to demean the ethical standards of the college and the values we try so hard to instill in SJC students. *The Spirit* can publish any opinions it chooses, but an educated college community expects an intelligent, well-reasoned,

factual and balanced argument, not a sarcastic, blustering rant more often associated with rabble-rousing and demagoguery.

Because there was no claim of authorship in the editorial, I must assume that the editors-in-chief wrote it. They must accept responsibility for the offensive language and sarcastic hostility directed at those with whom they disagree. It is unforgivable that *The Spirit's* faculty advisor did not see fit to help them understand the difference between responsible journalism and poorly reasoned sensationalism.

More offensive because of its direct anti-semitic message is the cartoon accompanying the editorial. I find it hard to believe that the student cartoonist understood the meaning and ramification of 'Schmutz' college and still placed it in the cartoon. Once again, the advisor's role must be questioned here.

Both the editorial and cartoon denigrate the mission of SJC which "affirms the dignity, freedom and inherent value of each person." Taken together, they bring disgrace to the college and make a mockery of its values. *The Spirit* and the St. Joseph's college community are capable of reaching higher. We must find a way to insure that the rancorous tone of the last issue of *The Spirit* will be replaced with intelligent, thoughtful and respectful treatment of all topics and viewpoints.

Sydelle Brooks
Director, ACES Program

The Adviser Responds:

Since you have chosen to attack me personally, it behooves me to respond to your allegations.

To begin with, since I am Jewish, it is almost absurd to accuse me of permitting an anti-Semitic editorial

or cartoon appear in the newspaper. You see a *yarmulke* whereas the cartoonist was depicting a bald person. Can't a Jewish person listen to a speaker? Aren't we supposed to be all about diversity? As for the word 'schmutz,' it was the first comical-sounding word that came to mind when the cartoonist asked for one. But you chose to read into it an overt example of anti-Semitism. Such an accusation is personally offensive to me.

But more importantly, I cannot help but marvel at the umbrage taken at the use of particular words or phrases by those who have certain political leanings. Perhaps a phrase such as "foul-mouthed, strutting bantam" for Hugo Chavez caused them distress. But I also must wonder if they are equally disgusted by the use of terms such as "Hitler" or "Nazi" or "World's Greatest Terrorist" for the President of the United States. Something tells me that there is no such sense of revulsion. I would go a step further and wager that they applaud such appellations.

Suppose the paper contained an editorial that characterized George Bush as "a war criminal, a murderer, a man personally responsible for over 3000 American deaths, an idiot, a moron, a man of no measurable IQ, a man who should be impeached—and imprisoned." Do you think a *single* letter would have been sent to the president of St. Joseph's College?

You know the answer to that already. You would have nodded your heads in agreement and chuckled about it in your coffee rooms, department offices and teachers' lounges.

To me, that type of hypocrisy, that type of selective righteous indignation is contemptible. And therein lies the fundamental veracity of the editorial.

Dr. Howard B. Weiner
Director of Student Publications

Pulitzer Winner Speaks at Library Series

By Rhomesia Ramkellowan

The techno-geeks who proudly proclaim that 'print is dead' clearly did not attend the McEntergart Library Author Series presentation, which featured Pulitzer Prize-winning author, Jhumpa Lahiri.

Held on Thursday, November 9th during Common Hour, Ms. Lahiri read excerpts from her collected works, showing the power and impact that the printed word still has on readers.

Her debut short story collection, *Interpreter of Maladies*, won the 2000 Pulitzer Prize for fiction, the PEN/Hemingway Award, the *New Yorker* Debut of the Year Award and an American Academy of Arts and Letters Addison Metcalf Award.

The volume consisted of short stories that she had written in college. It was not her original intention to publish them, but subsequently changed her mind.

Her fiction was translated into 29 languages and became a bestseller in the United States and abroad.

In 2002, she was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship which is traditionally given to individuals who have demonstrated exceptional capacity for productive scholarship or exceptional creative ability in the arts.

The following year, Ms. Lahiri

released her first novel, *The Namesake*. Set in Boston and Calcutta, this work examines the nuances of the cultural and generational conflicts that develop with immigrant families adapting to a new lifestyle in a different land.

During Ms. Lahiri's reading, her personality emerged in every passage that she presented to the audience.

"For an accomplished writer, she was very humble and insightful," said junior Atiba Theophile. "She was an ordinary person, someone you could talk to," he added.

Ms. Lahiri even offered some advice to young writers during her question and answer period. Amongst her suggestions were to read for examples, to take note of how language is used and the different methods of storytelling that authors utilize.

Born in 1967 in London, England and raised in Rhode Island, Jhumpa Lahiri received her B.A. in English literature from Barnard College, an M.A. in English, an M.A. in creative writing, an M.A. in Comparative Studies in Literature and the Arts, and a Ph.D. in Renaissance Studies from Boston University. She currently resides in Brooklyn with her husband and two children.



THE TECH HEAD

BY ROBERT MARRIELLO

NEW RULES OF THE ROAD

Since it is the new year, instead of doing a column informing you about technology, I would like to base this column on Bill Maher's "New Rules;" I would like to offer some new rules of my own based upon some tech news from last year.

New Rule: The Census Bureau is no longer allowed to have laptops. In September 2006, the government decided to take inventory of how many laptops it has purchased since 2001. In so doing, it noticed that 1, 137 of these laptops were missing, with the majority of them belonging to the Census Bureau.

I mean, I can see a hundred or so missing, but once you get past 1,000, it's a crime wave. Come to think of it, it would explain why so many dead Americans are still listed as living and vice versa.

New Rule: (In two parts): 1) You're not allowed to badmouth one of your own company's products before release, and 2) Steve Jobs needs to relearn what is considered romantic. Towards the end of October, before the release of the Zune, Microsoft's response to the iPod, Jobs was quoted saying that the file transferring feature from Zune to Zune was slow and that it would be much quicker taking out your earbuds and putting them in the ears of the girl you want to listen to it.

This would be a good idea, if it wasn't for the fact that sharing earwax isn't exactly my notion of being romantic. This would be as good as trying to get a date while wearing your Dungeons and Dragons Zorn, the Night Elf costume.

New Rule: Apple needs to learn to copy people to be popular. Towards the end of November, Apple decided (in an attempt to be as popular as Microsoft) that they would stop creating artistic programs like iMovie and iPhoto. Instead, they would make more logical programs like database creating programs and spreadsheet editors. If Apple keeps copying Microsoft in this way, by the end of 2007, they'll be programming their own bugs for Macs and iPods will have calculator features.

Final New Rule: You're not al-

lowed to advertise game systems when the majority of the people who will be trying to buy them, can't find them. In mid-November, the PS3 finally came out after a series of modifications on things people didn't care about were finally done. Due to some production problems, only a small amount was released to the U.S., meaning every store only got a handful of units.

Also, in conjunction with the release, a series of commercials that had nothing to do with gaming were released. These came off as weird and creepy.

As opposed to PS3, Nintendo Wii aired its commercials late at night, going after its target audience—geeks that stay up late at night with nothing better to do aside from gaming and watching TV.

The majority of PS3 commercials were aimed towards people who had no clue that the PS3 was coming out. So when they went to buy one, they found out that they were all snapped up by hardcore Sony fanboys and fangirls, as well as the ebay resellers, all of whom spent weeks outside of retail outlets as if they had nothing better to do.

Anyway, now it's time for 'Fact or Fake' and as you know, last time, there were only two choices with one being fake: 1) Windows and Mac hard drives run off the same type of operating program, and 2) Macs have more artistic based programs and Windows have more logic based programs.

The answer to this is that the Fake is #1. Mac and Windows hard drives run off two different types of operating programs, which is why if you take songs from an iPod from a mac computer and manage to switch songs with an iPod from a Windows computer, the songs will not play.

Sorry, but I don't make the rules or the programs. Anyway, this month's fact or fake is the entire article! That's right, people—one of my New Rules is completely fake, while the other three aren't.

Which one of them is it? You'll just have to wait until next month to find out, so until then, this is the Tech Head logging off.

SJC Celebrates Black History Month

Varied Slate of Activities Honor African-American Culture

By Tara Vafiadou

Martin Luther King Jr., Jackie Robinson, George Washington Carver, Colin Powell, Muhammad Ali—all are American icons whose achievements, along with dozens of others, will be celebrated during Black History Month.

Black History Month occurs every year in February. It honors African-American culture and history.

St. Joseph's College plans a month of celebrations and events for the campus and community, including five major events in which to participate.

On February 7, Barry Scott came to SJC with his Martin Luther King Jr. Tribute. He originally created this tribute to educate students about a violent and inspiring time in American history as well as about Dr. King and how he helped change the world.

Scott discussed King and the Civil Rights Movement. In his powerful presentation, he recreated some of Dr. King's most inspiring speeches. The program was designed to help students identify bias, embrace diversity and create respect.

On February 8, Havic Square took place. SJC invited a step dance group from Brooklyn to come and perform during common hour.

February 15 saw the musical duo "Nuttin But Stringz" appearing at St. Joseph's. Several students from the Patchogue campus visited Brooklyn for the performance as part of the

"East Meets West" program which brings students together from both SJC campuses to share ideas and events.

"Nuttin But Stringz" has released a highly anticipated single called "Dance With my Father" and their CD is entitled "Struggle from the Subway to the Charts." They have also made their name on television, appearing on *The Tonight Show* with Jay Leno. The group is also featured in the Hollywood blockbuster dance movie, "Step Up."

February 18 saw Woodrow Wilson Scholar John Maguire and his wife Lillian appear at the college to speak about topics including community service as an element in liberal arts education, values and social policy, a history of the Civil Rights Movement, and the life of Martin Luther King Jr.

The title of Mr. Maguire's speech was, "Catching Up with Martin: The Pertinence Today of King's Vision for a Racially, Socially Just Society."

He currently serves as a Senior Fellow in the Institute for Democratic Renewal in Claremont Graduate University's School of Politics and Economics and as a senior consultant to Project Change, where he engages in a range of racial and social justice activities.

John Maguire also serves on a number of boards including the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, the Tomas Rivera Policy Institute and the JL Foundation.

Finally, the School of Professional and Graduate Studies plans to have a jazz performance on Saturday, February 24 during lunch hour in the cafeteria.

St. Joseph's College has made as part of its mission the embracing of diverse cultures. Black History Month is one way to show how important those cultures are to the school and its community.



Martin Luther King Jr.



Jackie Robinson

Yearbook Undergoes Major Changes

By Nick Souleotis

Footprints, the St. Joseph's College yearbook, has entered a new phase in its renewal and development by combining with the yearbook of the Professional and Graduate School to create a single publication.

The idea behind the single yearbook is summed up in the phrase: "One College, one campus, one yearbook" and while recognizing the fact that the student bodies of the two divisions are very different, they still are all students of St. Joseph's College.

"Combining the Arts and Sciences and the Professional and Graduate school yearbooks supports the idea of St. Joseph's as one college," said Sherrie VanArnam, Director of Student Life. "This edition of *Footprints* will provide us with a complete picture of student life on the Brooklyn campus," she added.

The Professional and Graduate school will be fully represented in the yearbook with photos of graduates who took their senior portraits, a small biography for each, and a collection of 'spreads' highlighting the major P & G activities held throughout the year.

Unlike previous P and G yearbooks, *Footprints 2007* will be 100% color photography including the se-

nior portraits.

Additionally, P and G students will also have the opportunity to place congratulatory ads, just as their counterparts in Arts and Sciences have been doing for years.

The motivating force behind the combining of yearbooks is Dean of Students Dr. Susan Hudec. Dr. Hudec felt that the St. Joseph's yearbook should be brought up to date with other major colleges and universities that cover everything from their medical schools to their agricultural colleges.

"Combining the yearbooks will bring our college even closer together," said Dr. Hudec.

It is true that the mammoth yearbooks of major universities (some having as many as 600 pages or more) have much larger staffs and vast budgets; however, St. Joseph's College has the resources to manage the changeover.

"I'm all in favor of this move," said Dr. Howard Weiner, Director of Student Publications. "I think it

really bring us in line with what the best college yearbooks in the nation are doing and it can't help but increase the prestige of the college by having such a publication," he added.

The new editor in chief for the P & G section of the yearbook is sopho-

more Angela Romeo. She joins editors-in-chief Tara Vafiadou and Ashley Pucciarelli as the day-to-day managers of the book.

"I am both excited and honored to be working with our Publications Department as well as the yearbook," said Ms. Romeo. "The editing will be a great way to lead into my future career teaching high school English by proofreading and correcting other students' writing," she added.

Student response to the change in the yearbook has been very positive. "This yearbook will be a great way for everyone to remember the fun and exciting memories," said Christopher Burke, president of the Student Government.

His sentiments were echoed by UA Treasurer Natalie Fascianella who said, "This yearbook is sure to be a wonderful component of the senior experience. It is a great way to remember all the fun and wonderful memories we have gathered. Now, both divisions will be able to share in this experience."

Footprints 2007 faces a final deadline for submission of March 1, 2007. The book is scheduled to deliver in early May so that it may be distributed at Senior Night.

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FOOTPRINTS 2008

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Spring Awakening: A Review

By Nick Souleotis

Can a play written in 1891 about teenage problems be relevant with today's generation? Yes, it can, and *Spring Awakening*, which opened December 10th at the Eugene O'Neill Theater, is the proof.

Though the term 'teenager' was not coined until the Second World War, the show demonstrates that the problems of young people are universal; they do not change from generation to generation.

With a book and lyrics by Steven Sater and music by Duncan Sheik, the show is a modern take on a play written in 1891 by Frank Wedekind. At the time, the drama was considered controversial because it dealt candidly with themes such as premarital sex, parental conflict and acceptance.

The musical is presented through the eyes of three archetypal characters: a misunderstood loner, a handsome radical and a young girl anxious to learn everything she can about love and lust.

Jonathan Groff, who plays Melchior, is on his way to becoming

the next John Lloyd Young of *Jersey Boys* with his superb voice and flawless delivery of every song.

The romance between Melchior and Wendla, played by Lea Michele, is central to the exposition of one of the show's main themes. They portray the innocence of young infatuation while learning the severe consequences of their experimentation.

The costuming of the show seems anachronistic: Victorian and Edwardian fashions are utilized throughout. At first, it proves to be distracting, but in short time, the audience comes to realize the point: that parent-child conflicts belong to every age, that the desire young people have to free themselves of parental restrictions is as valid today as it was a century ago.

The music is modern and written with a pop-rock style in mind, a la *Rent*. The lyrics are not merely appended to the show; they fully advance the action. Most notably, "Touch Me," a ballad from Act I, is destined to become an American standard. The final curtain number, "The Song of

Purple Summer" will prove to have an almost visceral emotional effect upon audiences.

At best, the set is minimalist. Again, to American audiences used to overblown million dollar sets, this might be disappointing. But "Spring Awakening" is not about chandeliers plummeting to the stage or helicopters taking off from buildings with desperate refugees clinging to the skids; it is about emotions, passions and breaking parental restraints.

On the other hand, the lighting by Kevin Adams is absolutely integral to conveying the emotions of each character and every scene. The nuances of mood are clearly complimented by the lighting.

Before moving to Broadway, *Spring Awakening* played to sold-out houses Off-Broadway.

Under the skilled directorship of Tony Award nominated Michael Mayer with choreography by award-winning Bill T. Jones, *Spring Awakening* should delight audiences for many seasons to come.



The company of *Spring Awakening* perform the finale



The Culture Vulture

By Nick Souleotis

BIG SHOWS HEAD FOR GREAT WHITE WAY

Hello culture seeking friends! I hope your new year is filled with blessings and numerous cultural events. I am looking forward to another semester of columns about shows, music and books to discuss with you.

The coming year is destined to be a great time for Broadway. The 2007 season is full of stars, including Angela Lansbury and Tony Danza, as well as other show business luminaries who will grace the boards of some of the most famous theaters in the world.

But this month's column is what I call, "Things that any cultured person can't live without," and I'll talk about three major artistic endeavors that are coming up.

First on the agenda is the return of Angela Lansbury to Broadway after far too long an absence. Lansbury, the star of *Mame*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Beauty and the Beast* and a host of other plays, films and of course, *Murder She Wrote on TV*, is one of the theaters living treasures.

She will be co-starring with fellow theater legend Marian Seldes in *Deuce*, a play about coming to terms with one's life. The play will have as its home the Music Box Theater and previews begin on April 16th, with May 6th as opening night.

Tickets for *Deuce* go on sale January 14th, and with terrific advance notices, sell-outs are almost a foregone conclusion.

Television star Tony Danza has joined the cast of Mel Brook's monster hit, *The Producers*. He took over the role of Max Bialystock on December 19th and will remain with the show until March 11th. This is Danza's Broadway debut and the reviews of his performance were very positive. The all-time Tony-winning show is at the St. James Theater, and currently stars Brad

Musgrove as Carmen Ghia, Bill Nolte as Franz Liebkind, Lee Roy Reams as Roger and Angie Schworer as Ulla.

Directed and choreographed by Broadway veteran Susie Stroman, *The Producers* is still packing in audiences and should continue to do so for years to come.

Another 'must' for the cultured person is American Idol veteran Clay Aiken's new CD entitled, "A Thousand Different Ways."

The CD has a combination of originals and cover versions of other songs such as "Right Here Waiting" and "Without You." New material includes the title track, "A Thousand Different Ways," which I think is the strongest tune in the package.

Finally, another must for the cultured person is St. Joseph's own Fr. John Gilvey's *Before the Parade Passe By*. An exploration of the musicals of Gower Champion, the book, published by St. Martin's Press, covers some of the greatest American musicals of all time, which were either directed or choreographed by Gower Champion such as *Forty Second Street*, *Hello Dolly*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, *Irene*, *Sugar* and *Mack and Mabel*.

Anyone wanting to learn about the heyday of the American Stage Musical will find this book informative, entertaining and very readable.

Fr. Gilvey is a professor in the Speech Department of St. Joseph's College as well as a Catholic priest. His knowledge of musical theater is voluminous and his love of the genre is apparent on every page.

Now don't get me wrong—these aren't the only 'musts' for the cultured person. But the year is young and it's not a bad start. In coming columns, I will keep you informed of more things that you will want to keep up with to take full advantage of the New York City cultural scene.

See you in the next edition!

Asian Awareness Club and Desi Welcome Chinese New Year

By Gurjit Singh

A New Year's party on February 20th might seem strange to some, but not to the members of the Asian Awareness Club, because this party was in celebration of the Chinese New Year.

The celebration seems so late to so many because Chinese follow the Lunar calendar rather than the western calendar. Therefore, this is the year 4705 rather than 2007.

The Chinese zodiac contains twelve animal names and 4705 is the Year of the Pig. By this system, the name of the year is recycled every twelve years. Officially, the New Year begins on February 18th, 2007.

The New Year's Party was co-hosted by the Asian Awareness Club and the brand new Desi Student Association, which was welcomed to the campus this school year.

Featured at the party were a variety of Asian foods from Kum Kao Chinese Restaurant, Eastern music, and even a dragon dance—a tradition in the celebration of the Chinese New Year. There were even special fortune cookies provided for the occasion in a variety of colors and tastes.

During the celebration, a Power Point presentation by Qi Bin Li, treasurer of the Asian Awareness Club, explained the significance of the signs of the Chinese Zodiac.

The party took place in the auditorium of Tuohy Hall during common hour.

Most of the western world associates the lunar year with Chinese culture, but there is an interesting sidebar to this fact. Most Asian countries observe the Lunar New Year, but at different time and in very

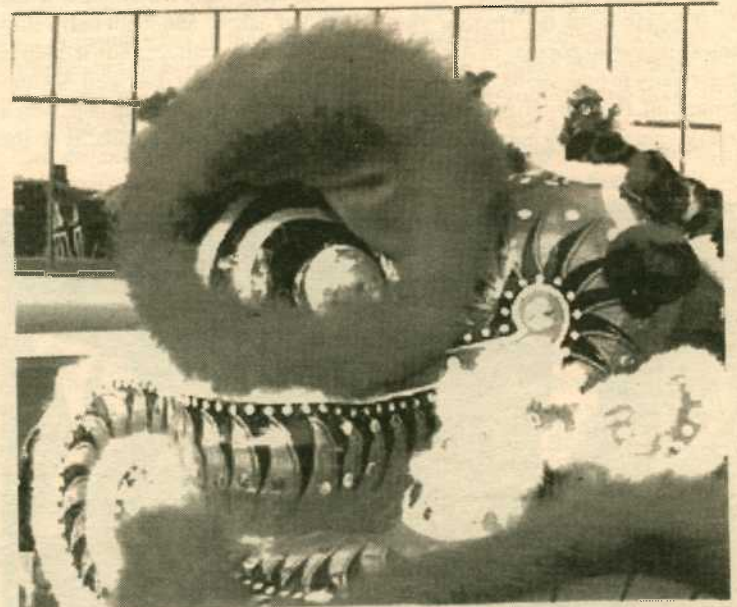
different ways.

Some of the Asian countries that celebrate the Lunar New Year are China, Korea, Japan, Vietnam, Thailand, Burma, Laos, the Philippines, Indonesia, India, Singapore and Malaysia.

For thousands of years, each country has uniquely celebrated the Lunar New Year, adding various cultural traditions.

Diwali in India is held in late October or early November. Koreans celebrate Lunar New Year or *Sol*, but it is not very popular. Koreans observe both the solar and lunar new years.

Vietnam's three day holiday of *Tet Nguyen Dan* has similar traditions to the Chinese New Year. Cambodia's *Chaul Chnam Thmey* arrives in late April, but bears little resemblance to the Chinese New Year. It celebrates the harvesting of the rice crop.



The Lion Dance is traditional for the New Year's celebration

Science Club Nets Big Results in Blood Drive Year's 2nd Drive Benefits NY Blood Center

By Angela Quinn

During the busy holiday season, shelves are stocked, advertisers make their millions and New York City hospitals face perhaps the biggest surge in the flow of patients: empty shelves bearing a mere day's supply of blood—the only lifeline for some patients.

To help replenish the supply, the New York Blood Center held a blood drive January 29-30 at St. Joseph's College. The drive, held in Tuohy Hall, was open to all qualified members of the St. Joe's community as well as the surrounding neighborhood.

The NYBC is a non-profit organization that collects and distributes blood to area hospitals. The organization also has close ties with the American Red Cross.

The NYBC has the largest blood research institute in the world. Researchers are working towards discovering vaccines for HIV, malaria, hepatitis, hemophilia and STDs. They also have the largest lab in the world that focuses on rare blood types.

Recently, the NYBC has added a new core department that focuses on a modern ethical issue: stem cell research.

The NYBC reports that every three seconds, someone in the United States needs blood. That is a demand for 32,000 pints daily, totaling over 4 million people per year who need

blood transfusions. To meet that extraordinary demand, the center holds frequent blood drives throughout the area.

"We usually do very nice blood drives here at St. Joseph's College," said Nicole Brown, a spokesperson and representative for the NYBC. "For a small college, the percentages that turn out are incredible. It's a logistical nightmare for New York City not to have supplies of B-blood. It is extremely important," she added.

B-Blood is used for platelet and plasma restoration, mostly in victims of severe trauma or cancer. In fact, 40% of all blood donations are received by leukemia patients. The extensive chemotherapy treatments destroy blood platelets, thus emphasizing the importance of donor's contributions in the crucial realm of survival.

During the month of February, when Americans celebrate the achievements of influential African-Americans, NYBC is focusing on Dr. Charles Drew, the first black surgeon in the United States.

Drew innovated the idea of the "Blood Mobile," a refrigerated truck that carried the plasma necessary to save the lives of soldiers during the Second World War. It was by accident that while adhering to military protocol to segregate blood, Drew discov-

ered that there are many rare blood types within minority groups.

NYBC uses Drew's work today in encouraging minority groups to make it to the blood banks so as to match the ethnicity of the donors and the patients, fostering a greater chance of the recipient's body accepting the blood.

"I think it's nice that SJC offers the drive to the community," said Kelsy Chauvin, a Clinton Hill resident. "It's nice not to have to hunt a place down. I've donated five gallons of blood in my life," she added.

Some people donate blood because they understand its importance or were asked to. "The more that people know about something, the more inclined they are to become involved," said Ms. Brown.

St. Joseph's students willingly donate, knowing that their single pint of blood can service up to five separate recipients.

"I've been donating for three years now," said freshman Child Study major Pat Chireo. "I started in high school and have been doing it ever since," she added.

For all those who donated blood, Nancy Brown said, "These are real people with real lives, and their time and blood allow them to live. On behalf of those who receive this blood, I thank you."



Dane Bruce manages a smile during his blood donation

CAB Rings in New Year

By Amy Tirado

What's a good way to welcome students back to school after the long holiday break? How about with the annual New Year's Party sponsored by CAB?

Tuesday, January 23, 2007 saw students and staff gathering in the cafeteria for a party catch up with friends and classmates on how they spent their six week vacations.

CAB provided both food and entertainment at the event. Desserts, coffee and hot chocolate were complimentary from Evodio's Café.

Music was provided by St. Joseph's College Junior Representative Mike Barthelemy, also known as DJ Royal, who provided a wide variety of crowd-pleasing recent hits.

In addition to refreshments, there was a Psychic Fair that included five different psychics, a tarot card reader, a numerologist, a palm reader, an astrologist and a shell reader.

The psychics provided the students with guidance and insight about what the new year held in store for them.

Numerous students were brave enough to find out what the coming year held.

"The psychics were told to tell the students their fortunes and what they can expect at SJC and in their lives," said Christine Contessa, Off-Campus Events Coordinator for CAB.

A large number of courageous students were willing to find out what

was ahead for them in 2007.

"I got my reading done by the shell reader," said Surbhi Dalal. "She had some interesting points to say in response to what I asked. This was the first time I had done something like this and it was a good experience," she added.

The psychics also provided new outlooks to SJC students—things that they might never have otherwise considered.

"Whether or not I believe in fortune telling, what the psychics told me helped me approach many things in my life from another perspective," said Amanda Gavigan.

At the New Year's Party, CAB also sold tickets to the February 27th New York Rangers game at Madison Square Garden.

"It's an awesome way to start off the semester," said Anthony Catalanotti, the On-Campus Events Coordinator of CAB. "Even though it takes place three weeks after the real New Year's Day, it marks the New Year for SJC and it helps bring students together after the long break," he added.

The New Year's Party marked the beginning of the new year and the new semester. CAB has many other events scheduled for the term which will capitalize on the good feelings the students felt as they returned to St. Joseph's.

SJC Cries Havic2!

By Christina Ament

They're athletic, they're artistic—and they dance like most of us walk down the block. They're the Havic2 StepTroupe and their performance on February 8, during common hour in Tuohy Hall was just another in a series of events honoring Black History Month.

The performance began with a narrator (also a step dancer) providing some background into the origin and history of step dancing.

It began with the rhythm and blues singing so popular in America in the early to mid-1950s. The Black groups of the period relied upon heavy choreography mixed in with

their songs.

The roots of step dancing, however, as well as R and B singing, and for that matter, all jazz music, is in African culture. The heavily rhythmic chanting, singing and dancing is related to the tribal rhythms and dances that were imported with the first slaves in the 16th century and largely grew out of the slave experience in America.

But stepping is a newcomer to the world of dance, and it not only relies upon African culture, but it blends other artforms into it as well, including tap, acrobatics and hip hop, which has gained enormous popularity on the

American musical scene in the last twenty years.

The five women and three men who make up Havic2 are almost astonishingly agile in their performances, leaping, spinning, stepping—all to the ever-present clapping which serves as a bass line to the dances.

Even before the step performance began, two of the members of the company began by reading selections of African-American poetry, highlighting the themes and aspirations so common to that culture.

The performance was sponsored by the Royal Steppers, St. Joseph College's own step company, a group that performs at home basketball games throughout the season and also at Midday Madness in the fall term.

"I thought the step show was a very impressive display of a certainly unique talent," said sophomore Courtney Leja. "It makes me wish that I had that kind of rhythm!" she added.

"This step show differed quite a bit from others I have seen," said sophomore Lori Bastien. "This one gave an entire story line to the show and explained things instead of just having step dances. That made it much more interesting," she added.

A lunch of sandwiches and wraps, fruit and drinks completed the lunch-time performance of the Havic2 group.



Members of Havic2 show their stepping style



Tarot reading was very popular at the New Year's Party

THE INQUIRING PHOTOGRAPHER

What is your major and what made you choose it?



Psychology. I like talking to people and helping them. I like to analyze situations; it's an interesting field.

—Cassandra Seide



Recreation. I chose my major in order to help children with disabilities. My brother has a disability and I want to learn how I can do my part to help

—Etti Taurog



History. I'm obsessed with history. I want to teach secondary school and become a history professor.

—Sable Wright



Biology. I want to be a doctor, an OBGYN. I like anatomy and physiology.

—Kleedy St. Surin



Biology. I want to be a pediatrician so that I can help children.

—Yvonne Ferrara



Business. I find business to be an easy major and most of my jobs were business-oriented.

—Grazia Gustave



Economics. For me, it's all about money. I want to be president of Serbia.

—Tamara Bulatovic



Speech. Both my parents needed speech therapy. I want to help people with speech impediments.

—Allyson Putre



Chemistry. I enjoy chemistry and wanted to be involved with a science other than biology.

—Cindy Mei



Math/Computer Science. I knew from high school that I wanted to major in math and St. Joe's has a collaborative program with Polytech.

—Dan Ristea



Child Study. I grew up with a lot of children and even now am around them a lot. This made me want to teach.

—Rocio



English. I chose my major because I like to read and I find that reading helps me expand my views on life.

—Kristina Stumpf

Gallery Show a Tour de Force

By Angela Quinn

When people think of the United States, the biggest cities such as New York automatically come to mind. But imagine not having to leave the United States to see water falls, snow-painted mountaintops and some of nature's most spectacular rainbows.

The Council for the Arts hosted a gallery show entitled, "Another View: Beyond Tourism," which featured a collection of photographs taken by Sister Patricia A. Manning, CSJ, who is a member of the Art Department at St. Joseph's College.

The gallery show opened for viewing on January 22 in the Alumni Room of Tuohy Hall and ran through February 15.

There were two receptions held in honor of S. Patricia, and there was also a Gallery Talk held by the Council for the Arts during common hour on Tuesday, January 30.

The thirteen works on display were hand-selected from over 15,000 images that S. Patricia collected on her road trip through the United States.

Her trip, taken while on sabbatical leave from SJC, lasted nearly six

months, from January to June of 2005. She traveled through much of the continental United States as well as several parts of Canada's mainland and Atlantic Provinces.

Her works that are on display include images from California, Virginia, Niagara Falls, Maine, Washington, Arizona, New Mexico, Wyoming and Utah.

Individual photographs presented such widely divergent subjects like "Six Boats in the Mississippi Fog," "Sunset on the River at Patriot's Point," "Flowers at Pebble Beach," and "Wild Horses and Egrets at the National Seashore."

Upon entering the Alumni Room, viewers immediately see one photograph entitled, "Organ Pipes," which was taken at Gila National Forest in New Mexico. The tall columns of rock strata are surrounded by a variety of desert plants and trees, illuminating an image of different shades of brown and green.

The visual presentation of the photographs and the natural images they depict of sights well off the beaten tourist paths in America are stunning.

"The turnout for the Gallery Show was excellent," said Sherrie VanArnam, Director of Co-Curricular Programs. "I think it's an excellent exhibit that has universal appeal. It encourages people to look beyond the familiar," she added.

Many of the viewers of the exhibition were shocked that such sights were actually available in the United States.

"The photos were absolutely captivating. It just show that there's a lot more to tourism than meets the eye," said CAB Off-Campus Events Coordinator, Chrissy Contessa.

S. Patricia stated her aims in a note to her viewers, visible just before they enter the Alumni Room: "While traveling this vast and beautiful land, I preferred to utilize backgrounds, scenic byways, and virtually unknown 'stops,' mainly relying on word of mouth recommendations and local lore. My most productive tips and guides were instinct, curiosity and just plain luck. I hope you enjoy the journey with me."

Those who attended "Another View: Beyond Tourism" certainly did.



Two of S. Patricia Manning's photos in Tuohy Hall

Dillon Center Serves Up "Pot Luck"

By Angela Quinn

Bring the potato salad, collard greens and lasagna and a group of three and four year olds, and you've got a party in the Dillon Child Study Center.

The annual Pot Luck Supper was held on February 9, 2007. An intimate event, it included the staff and teachers of the Dillon Center and the children who attend school there as well as their parents.

The Pot Luck Supper serves as a chance for everyone in the Dillon community to get together and spend more time together than the typical few words exchanged during the daily drop-off and pick-up.

The theme of the event was

multiculturalism and it was in evidence in the wide variety of international foods that represented such places as Italy, Ireland, the southern United States, Europe and South America.

Although open to the entire Child Study student body, far more Dillon students than SJC students attended.

"We put up the signs advertising the dinner, but maybe the child study students think it's only for the [Dillon Center]," said Sharon Waverly, Administrative Assistant of the Dillon Center.

A number of Child Study majors also volunteered to serve at the event in a variety of capacities.

The overall feeling of the Potluck Supper mirrored the philosophical

approach of the Dillon Center: warm, friendly and open to all.

"It's always a great success to have the parents and students together with the faculty," said Dr. Susan Straut-Collard, Director of the Dillon Center. "We had a great time and everyone shared great dishes with us," she added.

Founded in 1934, the Dillon Center was one of the first child development laboratories on the East Coast. It now serves as a model for many aspiring educators.

The Dillon Center is of particular importance to the students of St. Joseph's College who visit the center to observe, student teach and interact with the children and staff.

SJC GOES TO BROADWAY!
TICKETS FOR "HAIRSPRAY"
NOW ON SALE IN STUDENT LIFE CENTER

ST. JOSEPH'S SPORTS



THE SPORTING LIFE

BY MARK WILSON

Imagine: Kids' Sports With No Parents!

Parents are the leeches of youth sports. They suck the fun and enjoyment right out of it.

Children should play youth sports to meet some new friends, get some exercise and perhaps to learn a new sport. Instead, the parents turn the sport into an all-out war—as if the kids were playing for money or some type of world domination.

As a sports referee, I know this all too well.

I could write a book about the many times I've been cursed at or been told I have some sort of mental disability by irate parents.

But a game I refereed not two hours before I wrote this column really struck a nerve with me. So while it's fresh in my mind, allow me to recount what happened for you. Tonight, well, tonight was the 'Night of the Leeches.'

While the wind was briskly blowing outside St. Bernadette gymnasium, the heat was on full force inside. The excitement was palpable throughout the first and second halves of a junior varsity (grades 4 and 5) indoor soccer game.

This regular season game could have been mistaken for a playoff game as the back and forth goal scoring established a championship atmosphere.

With the last few minutes ticking off the clock in the last period, a youngster set up and took a hard shot at the far left corner of the net.

The stands, filled with parents, erupted into cheers and the children began celebrating.

Everyone believed the game-winning goal had just been scored. Everyone, that is, except for me—the referee. I began waving my hands in front of myself, much like a baseball umpire would signal safe, to indicate the ball did not go into the net.

There was a cacophony of noises emanating from the stage as parents began asking each other why the goal was disallowed.

I'm sure some figured out that there may have been some type of infraction which caused the goal to be nullified. Others, more likely, were not paying attention and decided to join in the hubbub once they realized it was their child's

team that was put at a disadvantage by the referee.

The referee! How dare he be so callous, so foolhardy as to be...human!

Contrary to popular belief, sports officials are not robots or cameras. We cannot replay situations in our minds, nor can we slow them down to take a second look. We have mere seconds to look at something, analyze it and make a judgement.

The game went to a shootout in which the team who felt they had scored the winning goal, lost.

Could I have missed the goal? Yes. It would not have been the first time. But, I'm not out there to put one team at a disadvantage. I don't care who wins the game. Yet, at the end of the game, I had parents telling me, "You need to open your eyes, my friend!"

I received cold and hateful stares from children and parents alike as I began cleaning up the gym. It amazed me to see how hard some of these adults were taking a loss.

It was a children's indoor soccer game! Yet most of the adults acted as if they had just lost the final game of the World Cup.

The coach of the losing team stomped out of the gym with a scowl on his face like a child whose candy bar had been taken from him. I had children coming back into the gym wrapped in their hats, gloves and scarves, berating me about how I don't know the rules and how, among other things, I should be fired.

There were no parents there to reprimand them about good sportsmanship or to tell them that it was just a game. Rather, a group of parents chose to stay outside—a horde of leeches—venting to one another about what an incompetent boob the referee was.

As I finished cleaning up the gym, one lone parent came up to me and said the kids played a good game, but they were too concerned over the melee to realize it.

I couldn't have agreed more. Children aren't born sore losers. It is their parents who instill in them this win-at-all costs attitude.

Perhaps children are born with a sense of good sportsmanship. But that's nothing a good leeching can't cure.

A Tale of Two Basketball Teams

Men's and Women's Squads Having Very Different Seasons

By Angela Quinn

It's been a season of ups and downs for the St. Joseph's College basketball program with encouraging signs of progress and hope for the future and both the men's and women's side.

The Men's Basketball Team is in the midst of a run at another Hudson Valley Men's Athletic Conference championship, which would be their second in a row.

Bolstered by strong play from their veterans, the Bears found themselves with a 17-7 overall record, having gone 5-0 in HVMAC play and 5-1 in Eastern Athletic Conference play.

Following a 4-1 beginning to the season, the Bears lagged a bit against the Merchant Marine Academy (86-72) and Hunter College (70-66). But they soon got back on track snapping off streaks of 4, 3, and 3 consecutive victories.

The Bear's single high-scoring game came against Briarcliffe College which they won 104-79.

Key to the team's success has been the play of team captain Mike Donnelly. Donnelly is averaging 16.5 points per game, playing over 32 minutes of each contest. He also leads the team defensively with 11 blocked shots.

Also vital on defense has been Ervin Maddox, who has accounted for an impressive 42 steals.

Returning players this year included Donnelly, Paul Kielmaowicz, Lukasz Kilmazewski, Przemyslaw Kudla, Ervin Maddox, Chris Olaskiewicz and Lukasz Cygan.

This year's rookies include freshmen Mike Dziewit and Brian Mahon, sophomores Dane Bruce and Larry Fawcett and Junior Timmy Finnigan.

In limited play, Dane Bruce has already made his mark, ranking fifth on the team in steals with 15. Also in limited play, Mike Dziewit is averaging 9.2 points per game.

Coach Joseph Cocozello has been the head coach of the SJC Bears for 5 years now. Assistant Coach Luke Caccavo began his second year with the team and Coach Nolan Adams is new to the team this year. All three members of the coaching staff are SJC alumni.

The team feels that it is in a good position for its title defense when the HVMAC Tournament begins on February 17 and when the USCAA National Tournament starts on February 28th.

For the Lady Bears, 2006-07 has been a different story. After winning 5 season titles, 3 conference championships and making 6 appearances in national tournaments in the last 6 years, it was almost inevitable that the streak could not go on indefinitely.

Heading into the last games of the season before the playoffs, the Lady Bears find themselves with a 9-15 record, the first time they have been below .500 this late in the season since Coach Frank Carbone took over the team.

The team began the season trading wins and losses, but never fully becoming untracked. Five times during the season, the team suffered back-to-back defeats, and at one

point against Spelman College, Huntingdon College and Judson College, the team lost three consecutive games.

Yet, there have been individual success stories. Perennial All-American and All-HVWAC player Lynette Reyes leads the team with an 18 point per game average. She also leads in Free Throw percentage with an amazing .820.

Veteran Svetlana Medvedeva tops the squad with a .462 Field Goal percentage, followed closely by Julia Serewko at .429.

Medvedeva also leads the team with 210 Rebounds—a 9.5 average per game. The defensive boards are owned by Lynette Reyes with 124 rebounds for the season.

Reyes is also tops on the team in Steals, Blocked Shots and 3 point Field Goals.

With the playoffs beginning in late February, the Lady Bears can still pull off a miracle and defend their title, but it will take both the starters and the bench to rise to the occasion if they expect to repeat as conference champions.

"We have a nice combination of veteran experience and youthful exuberance on this year's squad," said Coach Carbone. "There's loads of talent up and down our roster. If we stay healthy and get together, we fully expect that our trend of success will continue," he added.

With playoffs looming, the SJC community holds its breath and hopes Coach Carbone's words are prophetic.

SJC Goes Gardening – at MSG

By Christina Ament

Though St. Joseph's College always has a multitude of activities planned for its students, it continuously seeks to find new and untapped forms of entertainment that will appeal to its students.

One of the most recent new activities is a trip to Madison Square Garden to see the New York Rangers play the Montreal Canadiens in an NHL game.

After Yankee Stadium, Madison Square Garden is possibly the most famous sports venue in the world, and CAB has put together a very attractive package for the evening.

Scheduled for February 27 at 7 PM, the cost of the tickets is only \$30 for students and \$40 for guests and faculty.

At the present time, there is a limit of one guest per student since there are only a certain number of tickets available. However, CAB said it will post flyers if more guests will be permitted

to attend.

"A trip to a hockey game seems unusual but it is something different to spice things up," said CAB Off Campus Events Coordinator Christina Contessa, who has been a member of CAB for the last three years.

The idea for attending a hockey game grew out of a survey that CAB conducted amongst the students asking what type of sporting event they would be interested in attending, said Ms. Contessa. After baseball, hockey was the second choice.

This is not the first time that SJC has attended a major sporting event. In the fall, students attended a New York Mets game.

"We usually have a major sporting event every semester," said Ms. Contessa.

Though they have only one two Stanley Cup championships in their

history, the New York Rangers are a hometown favorite and very popular amongst the students.

"They are very much a 'Cinderella Team,'" said Ms. Contessa. "They win the Stanley Cup every 40 years and they are having success thus far this season," she added.

Currently, the team has a 48-23 record placing them third in the Atlantic Division of the NHL.

As the Off Campus Events Coordinator, Ms. Contessa believes that this will be a fun and successful trip for the college "because it is something different. There are more students that like hockey here than meets the eye."

Tickets for the Rangers game went on sale January 23, 2007 at the New Year's Party. They may now be purchased in the Student Life Suite.